

From: [David G FARRER](#)
To: [Elizabeth Allen](#); [Chip Humphrey](#); jim.m.anderson@state.or.us; [Mike Poulsen](#); [Judy Smith](#)
Cc: [Julie EARLY-ALBERTS](#); [Karen BISHOP](#)
Subject: Draft Final Portland Harbor: Recreational Use Public Health Assessment
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[attachment "Portland Harbor PHA Draft Final_3.24.11.docx" deleted by Chip Humphrey/R10/USEPA/US]

Agency Partners,

I've attached a Word version of our Draft Final Portland Harbor: Recreational Use Public Health Assessment. This document has already undergone thorough internal review, and your review will be the last stop before we submit it to ATSDR for their review/approval/distribution as the Final Version. I know this is a tall order, but ATSDR is asking if we can submit this document to them by March 31. For me to achieve this, I would need your comments by COB March 30 to give me time on the 31st to incorporate your comments and finalize submission to ATSDR. If you could let me know whether you think that's possible, that would be great.

To facilitate a more efficient review, let me emphasize that this version is extremely similar to the many versions you have already reviewed and approved. There is one significant change from previous versions.

This change is encapsulated in the new Conclusion 1 and associated recommendations. This conclusion identifies recreating on the beach at the former GASCO site as a Public Health Hazard and calls on EPA to oversee the posting of shore- and water-facing signage identifying it as a health hazard.

This change occurred based on a public comment which pointed out that all beaches are accessible from the water regardless of ownership. As such, it is possible for recreational use to occur at any of the beaches. Our response to this comment was to eliminate the distinction between "industrial" and "recreational" beaches and to apply residential screening values and recreational exposure factors to all of the beaches. This process identified the beach at the former GASCO site as beach where a 30-year exposure could increase excess cancer risk to unacceptable levels.

In Conclusion 2, we went to great pains to emphasize that ALL other beaches sampled pose no public health hazard. Other conclusions and recommendations are the same as they have been in previous versions.

Let me know if you need anything else from me.

Thanks so much!

David Farrer
Office of Environmental Public Health
Oregon Health Authority
800 NE Oregon St., Ste. 640
Portland, OR 97232-2162
tel. (971) 673-0971
fax (971) 673-0979
David.G.Farrer@state.or.us